

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/000,087

Examiner

Nicholas G. Giles

Applicant(s)

SHIMIZU, TETSUYA

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the supplemental response filed 08/24/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 3, 4 and 6-9.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.


THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


LIN YE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT AND STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Daniel Glueck on 10/15/2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1. (currently amended) An image pickup apparatus comprising: image pickup means for outputting an image signal having a first number of pixels which is greater than a predetermined number of pixels; converting means for converting a moving image signal having the first number of pixels, outputted from said image pickup means, into an image signal having the predetermined number of pixels; a first memory having storage capacity corresponding to the predetermined number of pixels, for storing the moving image signal having the predetermined number of pixels, outputted from said converting means; a second memory having storage capacity corresponding to the first number of pixels; a memory interface arranged to generate addresses of said second memory, to write into said second memory a still image signal of the first number of pixels outputted from said image pickup means, and to read out a still image signal of the first number of pixels from said second memory, said memory interface being capable of generating addresses of a memory of larger capacity, corresponding to

Art Unit: 2622

a number of pixels greater than the first number of pixels, than said second memory; still image processing means for processing the still image signal having the first number of pixels, read out by said memory interface; and first recording means for recording the moving image signal read out from said first memory on a first recording medium in accordance with a predetermined recording format, wherein the predetermined number of pixels conforms to the predetermined recording format, and wherein said converting means, said first memory, said memory interface, and said still image processing means are provided on a single integrated circuit, and said image pickup means and said second memory are not provided on said single integrated circuit.

Claim 8. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising: second recording means for recording the still image signal outputted from said still image processing means, wherein said first recording means records the moving image signal on a first recording medium and said second recording means records the still image signal on a second recording medium different from the first recording medium.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claims **1 and 10**, no prior art could be located that teaches or fairly suggests having the converting means/circuit, the first memory, the memory interface, and the still image processing means/circuit on a single integrated circuit and the

second memory is not provided on the integrated circuit in combination with the rest of the limitations of the claim.

Regarding claims **3, 4, and 6-9**, these claims depend on claim 1 and therefore are allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nicholas G. Giles whose telephone number is (571) 272-2824. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:30am to 4:00pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lin Ye can be reached on (571) 272-7273. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2622

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

NGG



LIN YE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER